



**Bay Area
Regional
Collaborative**

DATE: May 19, 2023
TO: BARC Governing Board
FROM: Allison Brooks, BARC Executive Director
RE: *BARC Systems Mapping Project Update*

Over the past several months, BARC has worked with its consultant team of AECOM, Non-Linear Ventures, and the Bay Area Climate Adaptation Network (BayCAN) to conduct Systems Analyses of Regional Agencies' existing efforts in the Climate Adaptation and Resilience and high-level assessment of associated Technical Assistance programs. The goal is to understand the drivers, scope, and breadth of each BARC members agency's roles and responsibilities in the field of climate adaptation, how these efforts relate to each other, and how they intersect with other levels of government (federal, state, local) and communities under increasing threat of climate hazards. When this project is complete, we will have a more comprehensive understanding of how the current regional climate adaptation "system" is operating, identifying gaps, overlaps and specific areas of improvement that can be addressed through the development of a Regional Multi-Hazed Adaptation Plan and a Climate Adaptation Technical Assistance Program (Initiatives 1 and 2, respectively, of the BARC Shared Work Plan, approved May 2022) in partnership with many stakeholders invested in climate adaptation across the region.

The project team has conducted desktop research of each BARC member agency to catalogue key climate adaptation legislative mandates, policies, planning documents, and programs. Subsequent interviews with key management and program staff verified, added, and contextualized this research to get a fuller picture of what is currently being done within each agency. The team created draft systems maps by agency and by climate hazard, that illustrate existing activities and relationships, or lack thereof. Some of those maps will be presented to the BARC Governing Board at our meeting on May 19, 2023.

Out of the in-depth systems analyses have emerged some observations and learnings that will help the BARC member agencies and our myriad partners discern where we can best focus our efforts to overcome obstacles to progress and work through tensions points that need more careful attention in order to help foster a high functioning climate adaptation system. The project team will return to the Government Board in July with its draft final report and next steps.